

In the Specification

On page 8, line 15, replace "attached" with - - attach - -, as follows:

The anterior portion 5 material is selected to have a degradation rate or bioabsorbability of about 6 months or longer, more preferably about one year or longer, and most preferably about 1.5 years or longer. The selected material is strong enough to hold a suture until degradation or removal of the suture, or for a period of time sufficient to allow attachment of the muscle directly to the implant through ingrowth. The coating is also sufficiently plastic to allow cutting of windows with a knife or cautery to expose the core to ~~attached~~attach extraocular muscles. Preferably, it will allow penetration of a suturing needle interoperatively without fracturing. However, penetratability can be enhanced by providing suture holes described below. The anterior material is sufficiently rigid to maintain a sutured extraocular muscle under common tension forces directly against the implant.

On page 11, line 12, add - - are - - before "located" as follows:

In order to further enhance immediate fluid flow into and out of the porous core for rapid fibrovascular ingrowth, a number of passageways 11 are manufactured into the posterior portion 6 of the coating. The passageways can be formed at the time the coating is molded or later machined into the coating after molding and/or after placement on the core. The passageways are shaped, sized and located to afford maximum fluid exchange between the core and surrounding tissues of the orbit without allowing interference from any underlying core surface spicules during implantation. The passageways are preferably uniformly spaced apart and restricted to the posterior portion 6 of the coating. Also, to maintain the structural integrity of the coating near where the extraocular muscle

suturing will occur, the passageways are located a distance apart from these regions. It should be understood that the passageways need not extend fully through the coating, but can be cylindrical depressions where the coating is thinner. Although, bioabsorbtion may take longer, such depressions may be more economically manufactured.

On page 13, line 1, add - - including adverse immune response reducers - - after “immuno-suppressants” as follows:

The core and coating are preferably pretreated to contain various therapeutic agents to control cell adhesion, migration, proliferation, and differentiation. Therapeutic agents can include but are not limited antibiotic agents, anti-inflammatory agents, vascularization promoting agents growth factors, cell adhesion modulating molecules, and gene fragment agents, immuno-suppressants including adverse immune response reducers, wound-healing promoters, blood-clot dissolving agents, blood-clotting agents, and any combination thereof. These compounds and conveyance vehicles are well described in Perry, U.S. Patent No. 6,248,130, incorporated herein by this reference.

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-10, 12-20, 22, 25 and 27, as follows.

- 1 1. (Currently Amended). ~~A coating for an~~ An orbital implant which comprises:
2 a porous core;
3 ~~an arcuate coating sized and shaped to cover a section of an~~ a first coating portion covering
4 a first outer surface section of said implant core; and
5 ~~wherein said coating comprises a first portion~~ said first coating portion having a first
6 bioabsorbability rate and a second coating portion covering a second outer surface section of said
7 core; said second coating portion having a second bioabsorbability rate different from said first
8 bioabsorbability rate.
- 1 2. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating-implant~~ of Claim 1, wherein said coating is deformed to
2 intimately contact surface features on said implant core.
- 1 3. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating-implant~~ of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said coating
2 portions comprises a polymer.
- 1 4. (Currently Amended). The implant of Claim 3, wherein said polymer comprises a material
2 selected from the group consisting of polyglycolic acid, polylactic acid, ~~polycaprolactone~~
3 polycaprolactone, polydiox-anone, polycyanoacrylate, ~~polyorthoester~~ polyorthoester,
4 poly(gamma-ethyl glutamate), and pseudo-poly (amino acid).

1 5. (Currently Amended). The implant of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said coating portions
2 comprises a therapeutic agent.

1 6. (Currently Amended). The implant of Claim 5, wherein said therapeutic agent is selected from
2 ~~[[a]]~~ the group consisting of a vascularization agent, and antibiotic agent, an immuno-suppressant,
3 a wound-healing promoter, a blood-clot dissolving agent, a blood-clotting agent, a cell-adhesion
4 modulating molecule, and any combination thereof.

1 7. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating-implant~~ of Claim 1, wherein said first and second portions
2 are bonded to one another along a bond.

1 8. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating-implant~~ of Claim 7, wherein said bond is selected from the
2 group consisting of: glued bonds, chemical bonds, molecular bonds, magnetic bonds, electrostatic
3 bonds, ultrasonic welds, heat welds, press fittings, snap fittings, shrink fittings, friction fittings, and
4 mechanically fastened bonds~~[[,]]~~ .

1 9. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating-implant~~ of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said coating
2 portions comprises a first material having a thickness selected to allow melting penetration using a
3 handheld cautery.

1 10. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating-implant~~ of Claim 1, ~~wherein said coating~~ which further

2 comprises [[a]] an indicia identifying said first portion.

1 11. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 10, wherein said indicia
2 comprises lettering.

1 12. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 10, wherein said indicia comprises a color
2 coding.

1 13. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said coating
2 portions ~~is further shaped to have~~ has a passageway ~~through said coating~~ therethrough.

1 14. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 13, wherein said passageway is positioned
2 on a posterior location of said implant.

1 15. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 13, wherein said passageway is sized to
2 allow fluid exchange therethrough.

1 16. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 13, wherein ~~said coating has a first~~
2 ~~thickness proximate to said passageway~~ has an upper rim at the surface of said coating portion, and
3 ~~wherein a portion of said core extends into said passageway~~ has a diameter selected so that an upper
4 ~~lip of said coating surrounding said passageway is positioned a radial distance greater than any~~
5 ~~portion of said implant in communication with said passageway~~ up to a buffer distance from said

6 upper rim.

1 17. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 1, wherein said first portion comprises two
2 concentrically adjacent layers wherein a first of said layers comprises a material not present in a
3 second of said layers.

1 18. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 1, wherein at least one of said coating
2 portions comprises means for reducing an adverse immune response by a recipient.

1 19. (Currently Amended). The ~~coating~~ implant of Claim 1, wherein said coating portions have ~~has~~
2 a thickness of less than one millimeter.

1 20. (Currently Amended). An orbital implant which comprises:
2 an implant having an outer first surface;
3 a coating at least partially covering said first surface;
4 said coating having a first portion having a first ~~bioabsorbability~~ bioabsorbability rate and a
5 separate second portion having a second bioabsorbability rate different from said first
6 bioabsorbability rate.

1 21. (Original). The implant of Claim 20, wherein said coating has an outer second surface which
2 is smoother than said first surface.

1 22. (Currently Amended). An orbital implant ~~comprises~~ comprising:

2 a substantially spheroid body sized and shaped to be placed in the orbit;

3 a coating sized and shaped to intimately contact a section of said body; and

4 wherein said coating has a first portion having a first bioabsorbability rate and a separate
5 second portion having a second bioabsorbability rate different from said first bioabsorbability rate.

1 23. (Original). The implant of Claim 22, wherein said coating comprises means for reducing an
2 adverse immune response by a recipient.

1 24. (Original). The implant of Claim 22, wherein said coating comprises a polymer.

1 25. (Currently Amended). The implant of Claim 24, wherein said polymer comprises a material
2 selected from the group consisting of polyglycolic acid, polylactic acid, ~~polycaprolactone~~
3 polycaprolactone, polydiox-anone, polycyanoacrylate, ~~polyorthoester~~ polyorthoester,
4 poly(gamma-ethyl glutamate), and pseudo-poly (amino acid).

1 26. (Original). The implant of Claim 22, wherein said coating comprises a therapeutic agent.

1 27. (Currently Amended). The implant of Claim 26, wherein said therapeutic agent is selected from
2 ~~[[a]]~~ the group consisting of a vascularization agent, and antibiotic agent, an immuno-suppressant,
3 a wound-healing promoter, a blood-clot dissolving agent, a blood-clotting agent, a cell-adhesion
4 modulating molecule, and any combination thereof.

1 28. (Original). The implant of Claim 22, wherein said coating comprises a surface having
2 microtexturing.

1 29. (Original). A combination of a body and a coating for implantation into the orbit of a mammal;

2 said body comprises an arcuate outer surface;

3 said coating comprises:

4 a first portion being made from a first material having a first bioabsorbability
5 property;

6 said first portion being sized and shaped to intimately contact said outer surface;

7 a second portion being made from a second material having a second bioabsorbability
8 property;

9 said second portion being sized and shaped to intimately contact said outer surface;

10 wherein said first bioabsorbability property is different from second bioabsorbability
11 property.